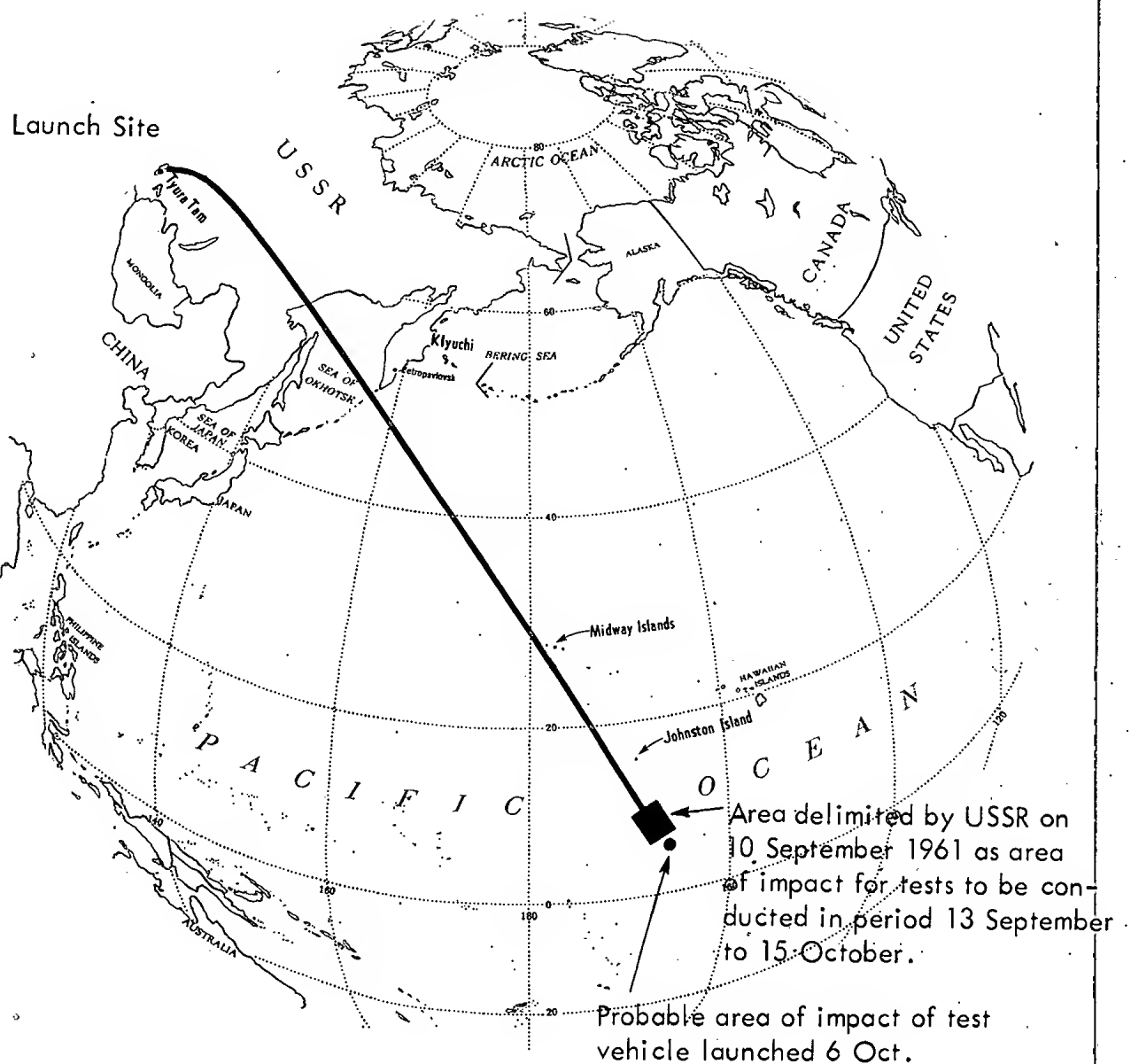


# THE PRESIDENT'S INTELLIGENCE CHECKLIST

*File*

7 OCT 1961

~~TOP SECRET~~



50X1

1. Warsaw Pact maneuvers  
about to begin



We have noted a wide variety of preparations throughout Soviet and Satellite ground and air forces. In addition, a Soviet mechanized army from the Carpathian Military District is passing through southern Poland into Czechoslovakia, while Polish and perhaps Czech troops are moving into assembly areas in East Germany. Nava exercises also can be expected.

50X1

50X1

2. Soviet weapons tests  
yesterday



A. There were two nuclear shots, one at Novaya Zemlya and at Kapustin Yar. The former appears to have been air-dropped; the latter was fired at considerable (but not yet determined) altitude, and probably was an important test of a missile or air defense warhead.

50X1

50X1

50X1

B. Another ICBM--probably one of the new types being tested this year--was fired from Tyura Tam to the Central Pacific. It went more than 200 miles beyond the four range ships and overshot the impact area announced by the USSR last month.

50X1

50X1

3. Katanga's military strength grows

Tshombe has been heavily reinforced with Belgian, Rhodesian and South African mercenaries and now has some light armor. He apparently has acquired six to twelve more aircraft, including cargo planes equipped for light bombing and additional jet trainers. His troops believe themselves ready to drive out the UN and may precipitate another round of fighting. If so, we think the UN forces will be in for a rough time.

50X1

50X1

4. Syria

A. We have noted signs of friction between Kuzbari's civilian cabinet and the military "revolutionary command." The latter apparently forced Kuzbari to retract a conciliatory response to Nasir's speech of Thursday. Dissension in the new regime could open the way for more radical elements in Syria or for Nasir's return.

50X1

B. The concentration of Egyptian forces and shipping in Alexandria has been dispersed.

50X1

50X1

C. Damascus Radio reports that the USSR and Bulgaria have recognized the Kuzbari government.

50X1

5. Serious trouble possible  
in Jordan



Open rigging of the upcoming elections and sympathy for Nasir among Palestinian Arabs have combined to create a potentially explosive situation. Nasir is apparently encouraging the Baath-- a radical socialist Arab nationalist party--to assassinate Husayn and overthrow his government. The Communists and the rightist Moslem Brotherhood are also independently making plans for violent action.

50X1

50X1

6. Dominican military disturbed by Balaguer's UN speech



His plea for world understanding of his program for gradual restoration of democracy has convinced many officers--who are aware that his speech was cleared with Ramfis Trujillo--that he and Ramfis are willing to accept an opposition-controlled regime, under which the officers would "bear the brunt of the peoples' wrath". Some are considering a coup to restore military dictatorship.

50X1

50X1



50X1

NOTES

- A. The Laotian princes' meeting yesterday was inconclusive, as both sides put forth their maximum positions. Another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow. 50X1
- B. The Chinese Communists plan to open a consulate in Phong Saly province in northern Laos, where they have been working to create a zone of Chinese influence. 50X1 50X1
- C. We have intercepted a Vietnamese Communist message containing instructions for handling Colonel Nam, the kidnapped South Vietnamese officer who is highly knowledgeable of US programs in that area. The message shows that Hanoi learned of the kidnapping only through announcements from Saigon, but is aware of the value of Nam. 50X1 50X1
- D. A prominent De Gaulle supporter has launched a trial balloon by proposing permanent partition for Algeria, probably to satisfy the army's objections to complete withdrawal. 50X1
- E. attempt to assassinate President Lopez Mateos. 550X1 50X1 50X1

DOCUMENTS OF INTEREST

- I. Ambassador Kennan's comments on Soviet intentions in the Berlin crisis.